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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/765,036	01/28/2004	Hiroyuki Inoue	03500.017863	9623

5514 7590 01/27/2006

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NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

LEBRON, JANNELLE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2861

DATE MAILED: 01/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/765,036

Applicant(s)

INOUE ET AL.

Examiner

Jannelle M. Lebron

Art Unit

2861

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06/14/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: must insert the word "in" between the words "arranged" and "the" in line 17.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Murayama et al. (US Patent 5,867,188).

- **Claim 1:**

Murayama et al. discloses a recording apparatus comprising:

a head holding member (70 in figure 5) which detachably mounts a recording head (60 in figure 5) including a head side connecting portion (64 in figure 5) to which electric power for driving the recording head and a signal are transmitted, the head

Art Unit: 2861

holding member (70 in figure 5) including a card edge connector (76 in figure 5) where the head side connecting portion (64 in figure 5) is inserted for electric connection when the recording head is mounted (column 7, lines 4-12; column 8, lines 46-57);

a lever member (120 in figure 5) which is arranged in the head holding member (70 in figure 5), the lever member inserting the recording head (60 in figure 5) into the head holding member (70) and detaching the recording head (60) from the head holding member (70), by rotation of the lever member (120); and

a recording head pressing portion (122 in figure 5) which is arranged in the lever member (120 in figure 5), the recording head pressing portion (150) pressing the recording head (60) in a direction in which the head side connecting portion (64 in figure 5) is inserted into the card edge connector (column 10, lines 22-28; as seen in figure 5),

wherein the recording head pressing portion (150 in figure 5) is arranged near a rotational center of the lever member (as seen in figure 5).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Art Unit: 2861

- **Claim 2:**

Prior art does not disclose or suggest either alone or combined the claimed "a guide shaft which guides the head holding member in a predetermined scanning direction, wherein the lever member is rotated about the guide shaft."

- **Claim 3:**

Prior art does not disclose or suggest either alone or combined the claimed "wherein the recording head pressing portion has a stopper portion which controls displacement of the recording head pressing portion, the stopper portion having a predetermined clearance in a direction of displacement made when the recording head pressing portion presses the recording head."

- **Claim 4:**

Prior art does not disclose or suggest either alone or combined the claimed "pressed portion which is pressed by the recording head pressing portion forms a predetermined angle relative to a direction in which the head side connecting portion is inserted into the card edge connector, and the recording head is located in a first direction and a second direction relative to a carriage by pressing force of the recording head pressing portion."

- **Claim 5:**

Prior art does not disclose or suggest either alone or combined the claimed "wherein the lever member is made of sheet metal, and the recording head pressing portion is formed by a plate spring, which generates the pressing force by deflection of the sheet metal."

Art Unit: 2861

- **Claims 6 – 8:**

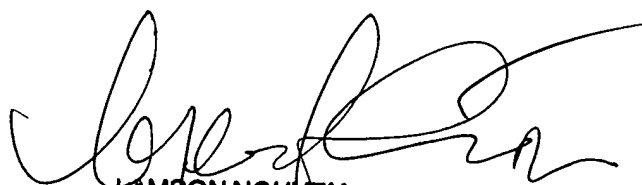
These claims are considered allowable subject matter since they depend on an allowable claim.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jannelle M. Lebron whose telephone number is (571) 272-2729. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Talbott can be reached on (571) 272-1934. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JML
12/16/2006


LAMSON NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
01/20/06